

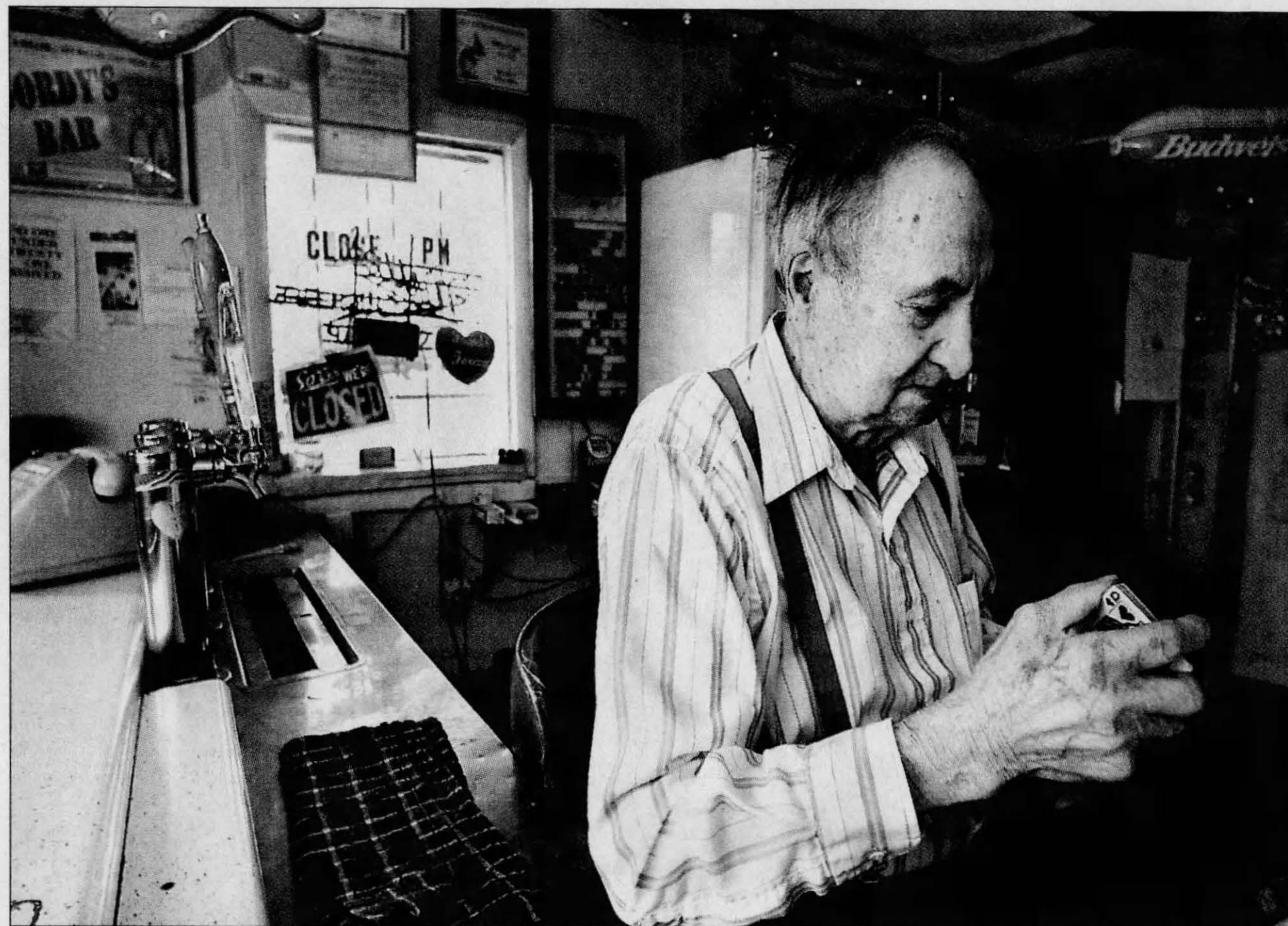
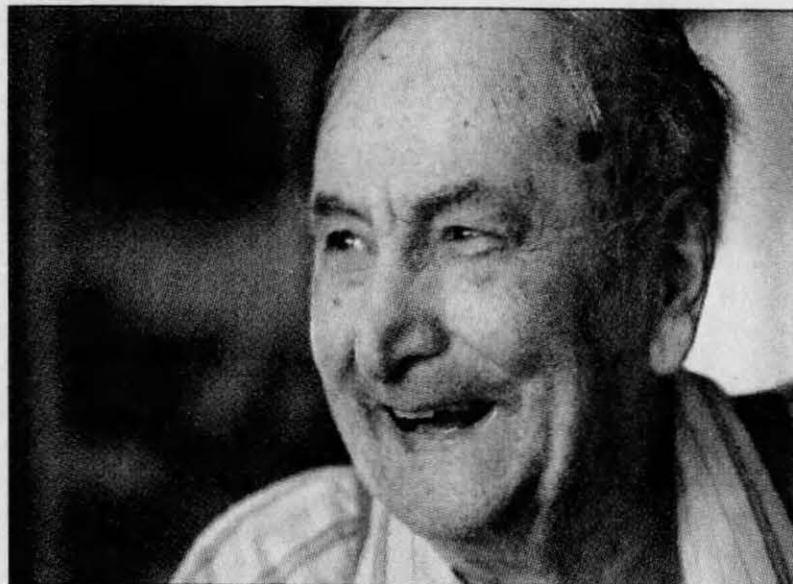


GORDY'S-BAR  
BEER - LIQUOR  
LIVE MUSIC  
PACKAGE GOODS

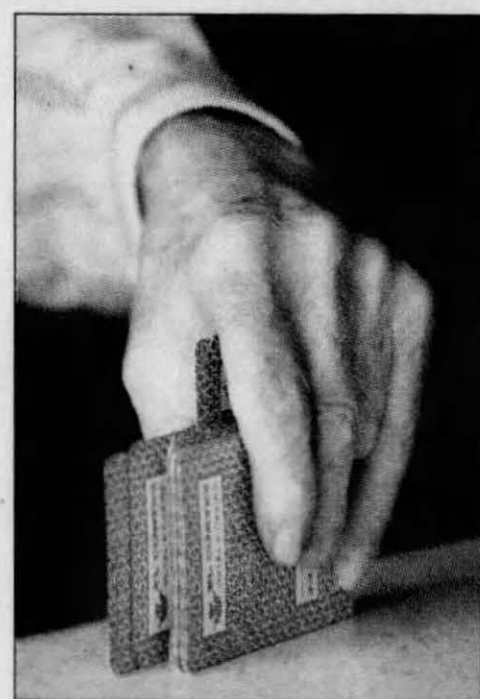


# Gordy's taps out

## East-side Green Bay bar to close its doors after 26 years



**TOP:** Gordy's Tap owner Gordy Mallien shares a smile on his 93rd birthday on Thursday at his Green Bay bar. **ABOVE AND BELOW:** Mallien, 93, plays with a deck of cards Thursday inside Gordy's Tap, 901 Main St., Green Bay. Mallien is hanging up the bar towel soon and later this year the bar will be destroyed by the city, which has purchased the site. Photos by Evan Siegle/Press-Gazette



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Stories still pour out of Gordy Mallien as easily as beer from the tap.

"I'm open every day but Sunday," the 93-year-old owner of Gordy's Tap said while refilling bar regular Cliff Wallace's glass. "On Sundays, I go dancing at Equity Park in Pound. I'm still good for three or four dances each week."

Gordy's Tap, 901 Main St., Green Bay, is going out of business soon — either the end of March or early April. Just about everything inside the bar

### Hoist one for Gordy

Gordy Mallien's birthday party will be from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday at Gordy's Tap, 901 Main St.

is for sale. Later this year the building will be demolished. The city, which has purchased the property, has the site earmarked for redevelopment.

"Everything's for sale," Mallien said, looking at the memorabilia around the pub.

"Everything but me," Wallace added.

"Even you can be bought

with enough money," joked Richard Kehler, another bar regular.

Mallien, who had also been living at the address, will move into a west-side apartment, but not before he celebrates one more birthday with family and friends.

Thursday was officially his birthday, but his annual party will be held on Saturday at the east-side bar he's owned since 1980.

Being a bar owner hasn't been a second career for Mallien, just the last one. Over

► See Gordy's, B-5



Gordy Mallien, left, visits with customers on Thursday inside his bar, Gordy's Tap, in Green Bay. Evan Siegle/Press-Gazette

## Gordy's/Mallien also ran bar near Brussels

► From B-1

the past seven decades he's had so many jobs it's hard to keep count.

"I grew up on a farm near Brussels and was raised to work hard," he said, displaying a picture of the small log home that he grew up in with his parents, two sisters and four brothers.

"In '33 I blasted stumps for the summer; made \$12 a month.

"In '34 I ran a farm in Casco and made \$25 a month.

"I worked on the WPA (Works

Progress Administration) in '35 feeding a stone crusher. Worst job ever.

"For 28 years I ran the Tornado Tavern up near Brussels.

"I also worked in the shipyard for 38 years. I had 66 men working under me. We built the Badger from the car deck up." He proudly pulled out a postcard of the ferry boat.

"When I got married the second time, my wife had a plot near Crivitz and I started a gift shop up there that I ran five or six years.

"After I got divorced from her,

I moved to Green Bay and this place was for sale. It was already condemned by the city, but I brought it back, and I've been here 26 years."

And on every day (except Sunday) for the past 17 years, Wallace has spent a few hours on a barstool across from Mallien, playing cards and shaking dice. Kehler is a relative newcomer, counting just six or seven years as a regular.

"When Gordy's closes, I'll probably just sit at home and drink beer," Wallace said, a tug of emotion in his voice.